

House File 377 - Introduced

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BY KAJTAZOVIC

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to greater transparency for state board of
2 regents meetings, forums, and proposals.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 262.8, Code 2013, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **262.8 Meetings — public forums — public readings.**

4 1. The board shall meet four times a year. Special meetings
5 may be called by the board, by the president of the board, or
6 by the executive director of the board upon written request of
7 any five members thereof.

8 2. Each regular meeting of the state board of regents
9 shall begin with at least thirty minutes for public comment if
10 requested by members of the public. A member of the public
11 shall be granted up to five minutes to make comments and may be
12 granted more time by a member of the board.

13 3. At least two members of the state board of regents
14 shall hold public forums at which issues relating to the
15 activities of the board and the institutions the board governs
16 can be discussed and addressed. The forums shall provide
17 the community with opportunities to pose questions, receive
18 answers, and make comments. The board shall divide the
19 state into at least six geographic regions, including but
20 not limited to northwest, southwest, north central, south
21 central, northeast, and southeast Iowa, and shall hold a forum
22 in accordance with this subsection in each region at least
23 quarterly. Notice of a forum shall be prominently posted on
24 the board's internet site at least two weeks prior to the date
25 of the forum.

26 4. The board shall hold public readings of a proposal at two
27 regular meetings of the board before the board takes action on
28 a proposal before the board if the proposal affects an academic
29 program at an institution governed by the board, or if the
30 estimated cost of the proposal is one hundred thousand dollars
31 or more. A quorum of the board must be physically present at
32 any board meeting that includes a public reading required by
33 this subsection. The affirmative vote of a majority of the
34 membership of the board is necessary for any action to be taken
35 by the board on a proposal subject to this subsection.

